

California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South
Sacramento, California 95825
Tel. (916) 574-1871 ♦ Fax (916) 574-1875

SOLICITATION FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

REVISED PROPOSAL

September 19, 2008

Bid Log Number: 2008-05
CSLC EIR #748
Project: Lucerne Valley Solar
SLC Ref File: W26267; R15807

PROSPECTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Pursuant to Government Code § 4526, the California State Lands Commission (CSLC) hereby announces its intention to hire an environmental services consultant to prepare a Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed construction of the Lucerne Valley Solar Project in the Lucerne Valley area of San Bernardino County.

Prospective consultants (defined as lead or principal consultants intending to submit a proposal) are required to attend a Pre-proposal Conference to be held on October 1, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. in the State Lands Commission's main conference room, 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South, Sacramento, CA.

I. Term

The term of the agreement to be awarded under this SOI will be two years with the State option to renew for an additional three years on a year-to-year basis with no increase in cost for the contracted services.

II. Description of Project

Cannon Solar Partners, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, is planning the development, construction and operation of the Lucerne Valley Solar Project (the Project), a large utility scale solar energy project in Lucerne Valley. The State land Project is planned for construction in three phases: Phase 1 200MW year 2011-2013, Phase 2 250MW year 2013 -2015, and Phase 3 250MW year 2015-2017. The Project is located collectively on approximately 4,540 acres of State land near the intersection of Highway 247 and Lucerne Valley Cutoff. All project phases are within the unincorporated Lucerne Valley planning area. There are a few widely dispersed residences near these Phase sites. An additional phase (Phase 4) that is wholly located on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management Land (BLM) will also need to be evaluated as part of the CEQA document.

Phase 1 of the Project will be located on approximately 1,300 acres of State lands administered by the California State Lands Commission. Proposed site work and structures related to this phase of the Project include the following:

1. Installation of about 3,790 concentrated solar photovoltaic (CPV), 53kW energy systems
2. 320VDC-208VAC inverters and 208V/34.5kV distribution transformers
3. A 34.5kV underground electrical collection system
4. A 34.5/115 kV substation
5. A 22 mile, 115 kV transmission line from Phase 1's Project substation to Southern California Edison's (SCE) Cottonwood – Savage 115kV transmission line
6. Operations and maintenance building
7. A water well
8. A water tank
9. Main access roads
10. Service roads for performing O&M on the CPV energy systems

Phase 2 of the Project will be located on approximately 1,575 acres of State lands administered by the California State Lands Commission. Proposed site work and structures related to this phase of the Project include the following:

1. Installation of about 4,570 concentrated solar photovoltaic (CPV), 53kW energy systems
2. 320VDC-208VAC inverters and 208V/34.5kV distribution transformers
3. A 34.5kV underground electrical collection system
4. A 34.5/230 kV substation
5. An 8-mile, 230 kV transmission line from Phase 2's Project substation to SCE's Pisgah – Lugo 230kV transmission line.
6. Operations and maintenance building
7. A water well
8. A water tank
9. Main access roads
10. Service roads for performing O&M on the CPV energy systems

Phase 3 of the Project will be located on approximately 1,660 acres of State lands administered by the California State Lands Commission. Proposed site work and structures related to this phase of the Project include the following:

1. Installation of about 4,815 concentrated solar photovoltaic (CPV), 53kW energy systems
2. 320VDC-208VAC inverters and 208V/34.5kV distribution transformers
3. A 34.5kV underground electrical collection system (Will connect to Phase 2 Substation)
4. Operations and maintenance building
5. A water well
6. A water tank
7. Main access roads
8. Service roads for performing O&M on the CPV energy systems

Phase 4 (Potential future expansion) of the Project is proposed for development on approximately 546 acres of BLM land all of which is on the north side of Lucerne Valley Cutoff about two to three miles north of the intersection of Highway 247 and Lucerne Valley Cutoff. A total of 1,511 solar arrays are planned for installation at this site. The panel density and

configuration would be similar to the other sites. The planned output is 80 MW and if the BLM approves this Phase of the Project, construction would begin on in late 2018 and end in the summer of 2021.

Materials Available for Review

Background materials compiled for the proposed project can be viewed at http://www.slc.ca.gov/Misc_Pages/Contracting_Opportunities_Home_Page.html or at the Sacramento office after making an appointment with the CSLC staff listed below. Materials include: 1) the Project Application, and 2) Preliminary Environmental Analysis.

Contact information for project related background materials is:

Annabell Abeleda, Contract Officer
California State lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 574-1871
abeleda@slc.ca.gov

Other Agency Involvement

Federal, State, and Local agencies that, in addition to the CSLC may have approval or oversight over aspects of the proposed Project, include, but are not limited to:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
- County of San Bernardino
- California Energy Commission (CEC)
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

III. Description of Work

The CSLC is acting as Lead Agency under the CEQA to prepare an EIR for this Project. Review of the BLM lands under NEPA will not be conducted at this time. The consultant should plan to prepare an EIR and supporting technical documents that meets the CEQA requirements, using both original review and analysis conducted by the consultants, as well as independent third party review and analysis, on behalf of the CSLC, of the materials submitted by the applicant in the lease application.

The Contractor is expected to: (1) provide the full range of expertise required to complete the EIR documentation and review processes; (2) independently assess and validate information provided by the applicant and other stakeholders; (3) conduct relevant environmental studies that will be used to prepare the EIR; (4) independently identify all relevant environmental protection and consultation requirements; (5) independently develop proposals to meet those requirements and/or resolve conflicts, subject to agency approvals and submission requirements; (6) support public and intergovernmental outreach efforts throughout the process, including development of a scoping report, (7) coordinate interagency meetings with the CSLC, and other cooperating agencies; (8) provide support for development and maintenance of the administrative record that will substantiate State decisions, and (9) take the initiative to advise CSLC of the necessary efforts required. The Scope of Work provided by each potential bidder shall be task-based (see tasks listed below in Technical Content of Proposal), include a listing of milestones and work products, resumes for proposed team members who will be providing technical input or oversight to the documents, and identify and describe how each potential CEQA issue areas will be identified and analyzed (i.e., original or “third-party” review and analysis, including a description of the specific methodology and anticipated sources of information to be utilized in analyzing each issue area).

At a minimum, the EIR shall discuss the affected environment, potential environmental impacts and potential mitigation measures relative to the CEQA for issue areas such as the following:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology, Soils, and Fault hazards
- Mineral Resources
- Paleontologic Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Recreation
- Noise
- Cultural Resources
- System Safety/Risk of Upset
- Transportation and Circulation
- Cumulative Impacts
- Growth-Inducing Impacts
- Other potentially applicable issue areas recommended in the consultant Proposal

The EIR must also include a section on greenhouse gases, consistent, AB 32, and subsequent legislation. The EIR must also include a separate discussion on socio-economic issues and

Environmental Justice issues, consistent with the provisions of the CSLC Environmental Justice Policy as adopted in October 2002.

If the bidder determines that such low income or minority communities or groups are found to exist within the potential “hazard” or “impact” footprint area of the proposed Project, the bidder will then conduct an impact analysis consistent with the CSLC Environmental Justice Policy, to determine whether such identified communities or activities carried on by individuals of such communities, e.g., farming, etc., may be disproportionately impacted by the proposed Project.

The cumulative analysis (see section 15130 of the State CEQA Guidelines) in the EIR must look at past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the area of potential effect to each of the above identified issue areas that are affected by the project to assess if the project’s incremental effect is cumulatively considerable, as defined in section 15065 and the CEQA guidance.

The Draft EIR must include a Mitigation Monitoring Program (see section 15097 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The Draft EIR will include an Appendix that contains the NOP, agency letters, the scoping report, technical reports as needed, including the biological and geotechnical assessments, and an indication (section and page) where each individual comment is addressed in the Draft EIR.

Technical Content of Proposal

The CSLC are looking for a detailed Proposal (task-based with detailed methodology, including a list of milestones, work products, and anticipated sources of information to be used in analyzing each issue area) from each firm covering the following tasks:

Task 1. Project Start-up

- Organize and attend a kick-off meeting and project tour with Applicant and CSLC;
- Attend interagency meetings with other potential cooperating agencies to identify their roles and how they will participate in the EIR process and provide document input;
- Develop Project Management Plan, including mechanisms for tracking EIR progress, and a public outreach plan;
- Prepare and distribute the Notice of Preparation (NOP);
- Organize and develop presentations and other materials such as maps and handouts for public scoping meetings and interagency briefings for the CSLC;
- Provide logistical support for meetings;
- Develop the administrative record (AR) methodology and initiate and maintain an AR file;
- Develop a scoping report based on written, email, and verbal comments during the project-scoping period. A recorder will be required at scoping meetings to ensure accuracy of public feedback;
- Inspect the accuracy, validity, integrity, and completeness of environmental information (including any identification and evaluation of environmental impacts or compliance requirements) provided by the applicant and/or other stakeholders and, following the

inspection, provide a methodology to independently identify and evaluate environmental impacts;

- Identify information gaps that may hinder an appropriate evaluation of environmental impacts, and provide CSLC with a specific methodology to obtain the information;
- Attend status meetings or calls with CSLC and other agencies to ensure adequate progress towards project completion and to identify and resolve issues that delay progress;
- Organize and attend follow-up technical meetings and on-site inspections to determine supplemental information required in environmental, engineering, grading and other construction plans in order to ensure adequate analysis;
- Determine if additional environmental studies are needed and describe what would be required to conduct such studies, as necessary;
- Prepare a project-specific “Style Guide” (based on the CSLC template) to ensure that the Public Draft and Final EIR are consistent with the CSLC’s desired formatting and professional standards and planning terms and thresholds. **The consultant shall include a professional writer/editor on its team, whose qualifications and experience on similar documents shall be described;** and
- Review, identify, and/or develop Significance Criteria for each issue area that is to be addressed in the Draft EIR.

Task 2. Prepare Administrative Draft EIR

- Prepare a concise project description based on applicant materials.
- Evaluate all (environmental and otherwise) potential issues of concern in the EIR process, identify those likely to be the most significant, and describe methodologies to address the significant issues;
- Finalize and focus the list of potentially significant environmental issues to be addressed and the rationale for not addressing other issues brought forward during scoping and analysis, in the Draft EIR based on the content of this SOI, the NOP, the scoping process, the Project application, the Environmental Assessment prepared by the applicant, and such other knowledge and information as may be available to the consultant;
- Describe the general setting and the affected environment for each issue to be analyzed relevant to the potential area of impact;
- Define the study area for each potentially affected environmental issue,
- Evaluate all (environmental and otherwise) potential issues of concern in the EIR process, identify those likely to be the most significant, and describe methodologies to address the significant issues;
- Identify appropriate options to mitigate potentially significant environmental impacts, and describe the effectiveness and feasibility of each option;
- Evaluate and compare alternatives to the Project, including, at a minimum, the alternatives described in the NOP and reasonable new alternatives that are the result of public scoping and interagency coordination; and

- Prepare and distribute sufficient (assume 8) copies for CSLC review of the Administrative Draft EIR, including an Environmental Justice section, and a Mitigation Monitoring Program (MMP), prior to formal public distribution of the Draft EIR, as shown on the following Schedule. The document shall contain sufficient information to fully comply with all of the appropriate and applicable CEQA requirements.

Task 3. Prepare Draft EIR

- Incorporate CSLC and other comments approved by the Lead agencies from Task 2 into the public Draft EIR;
- Prepare, verify, maintain and update a computerized (sortable database) mailing list of agency staffs, officials, community/environmental groups, affected property owners, and other concerned citizens or interested parties. The selected Contractor, together with the applicant and the CSLC, will develop initial agency and property owner lists. The Contractor will provide a sign-in list at the Draft EIR hearings that also asks if individuals wish to receive a printed copy and/or a compact disk (CD) of the Draft and Final EIR. Prior to circulation of the Draft and Final EIR, the Contractor will notify individuals on the Project mailing list who have not otherwise indicated a preference, to determine whether these individuals wish to receive a printed copy and/or CD, or neither;
- Prepare camera-ready versions (assume 8 copies each) of the Draft EIR for review by CSLC staff and management approval prior to circulation; and
- Prepare to CSLC specifications, an electronic version of the Draft EIR for publication on the CSLC website, and hosted on the consultants site; and
- Prepare and distribute sufficient (assume 200) copies of a public Draft EIR and MMP, with additional electronic versions produced on CD (up to 300), in **both** Microsoft Word (XP or 2003) and PDF (Adobe Writer) formats, with images presented in GIF or JPEG format.

Task 4. Prepare Final EIR

- Organize and number all comments received during the public comment period on the Draft EIR;
- Draft responses to each comment for agency approval;
- Prepare corrections/modifications to the Draft EIR as appropriate;
- Prepare and distribute sufficient (assume 16) copies of the administrative draft Final EIR for review and comment by the CSLC;
- Incorporate CSLC comments, and other comments approved by the lead agencies on the administrative draft Final EIR;
- Prepare camera-ready versions (assume 8 copies) of the Final EIR for review by CSLC staff prior to circulation;
- Prepare to CSLC specifications, an electronic version of the Final EIR for publication on the CSLC website, or hosted on the consultants site website; and
- Prepare and distribute sufficient (assume up to 200) copies of a public Final EIR and MMP, including electronic versions produced on CD (assume up to 400 copies).

Task 5. CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations (if necessary)

- Prepare CEQA Findings (section 15091) and, if necessary, a Statement of Overriding Considerations (section 15093) subject to review and approval of the CSLC;
- Close out, at the direction of the CSLC, the administrative record of the preparation and certification of the Final EIR and decision on the Project.

Task 6. Public Hearings & Meetings

- Organize two public meetings/hearings on the Draft EIR (assume that the meeting will be separated into an afternoon and an evening session), and present the Draft EIR and related information at the hearing.
- Place public meeting notices in local newspapers (CSLC will place notices on their websites).
- Arrange for a court reporter to record the proceedings of the hearings. Electronic and paper copies of the hearings will be provided for inclusion into the Final EIR;
- Attendance at, and participation in, as necessary, a State Lands Commission meeting for certification of the Final EIR and consideration of the Project; and
- Participate in a post-project evaluation with CSLC staff in Sacramento to review which aspects of the process went particularly well and what areas could have been improved upon.

Optional Tasks

At a minimum, inclusion of the following “optional” tasks:

- Participation in appeal and/or litigation support based on studies and analysis conducted under your direction;
- Field monitoring to ensure compliance with requirements of the MMP, including preparation of sufficient (assume 12) copies of a draft and final report describing the effectiveness of each mitigation measure.

Documentation and Production

Please note the following additional requirements for preparing the EIR documents:

- The consultant shall engage a technical editor with experience editing Environmental Impact Reports. Any formal submissions to the State of work products must be first subjected to review by the editor. Poor quality work will be returned immediately to the consultant with no review for content. This determination shall be at the sole discretion of the State’s Project Manager;
- All copies of the Administrative Draft EIR, Final EIR and MMP prepared for this project shall be printed on paper that contains a minimum 30% post-consumer recycled content. The consultant shall also provide all required documents on CDs in the quantities listed above;
- The consultant shall engage an experienced web content publisher to prepare an electronic version of the Draft EIR, the Final EIR, including the comments and responses, and the MMP, for posting on the CSLC website. Files shall be submitted in **both**

Microsoft Word (XP or 2003) and PDF (Adobe Writer) formats, with images presented in GIF or JPEG format. The Consultant shall also prepare an index page in HTML format with submission of the Draft EIR and MMP. Please see CSLC Style Guide for the State specifications. No single file, including images, shall exceed one (1) megabyte (MB) in size without prior approval of the CSLC Project Managers. The Consultant may need to break the electronic version into as many logical sections as is necessary to meet the 1 MB size limitation. In addition, the consultant may provide its own website to host the CEQA documents, but the same formatting criteria must be followed.

- The consultant shall provide 10 CDs each containing the Draft and Final EIR, MMP, CEQA Findings, and Statement of Overriding Considerations (if necessary) in **both** Microsoft Word (XP or 2003) and PDF (Adobe Writer) formats, with images presented in GIF or JPEG format to the CSLC.

IV. Required Description of Project Manager Qualifications

All firms shall include the following information as part of the Proposal submitted to the CSLC:

- Describe the experience of the proposed Project Manager regarding preparation of CEQA documents for projects of similar size, complexity, and potential controversy;
- Describe the experience, training, seminars and classes that the proposed Project Manager has completed in the specific areas of project management, budget preparation and administration, and contract management;
- Describe and provide examples of the tools and approach that the proposed Project Manager will continuously utilize to keep the project on schedule and on budget, and to communicate project status, issues and concerns with other members of the consultant team and the CSLC Project Manager;
- Describe the methods and processes that will be used to assure the quality of the work products including the utilization of an editor to review the document prior to any submissions to the State and the identification of the person or firm responsible for the production of the web version of the document to be prepared in compliance with the specifications above; and
- List, in the last five years, any environmental documentation completed under the auspices and direction of the Project Manager for which litigation has been filed and describes the issues cited in and the outcome of such litigation.

Tentative Schedule

Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference, 2:00PM	10/01/08
Proposals & Sealed Cost Proposals Due, 4:00PM	11/03/08
Interviews with Top Three Firms, in Sacramento	11/10/08
Tentative Consultant Selection	11/14/08
Authorization to Proceed	11/26/08
Kickoff Meeting	12/02/08
NOP DRAFT	12/08/08
NOP Released	12/12/08
NOP Scoping Meeting	12/17/08
Comments on NOP Due	01/16/09
Style Guide Finalized	01/20/09
Submit ADEIR to CSLC*	05/04/09

CSLC Returns Comments	06/06/09
Camera-ready Draft EIR and MMP to CSLC	06/25/09
CSLC Returns Comments	07/16/09
Camera-ready Draft EIR to Printer	07/30/09
Begin 45-day Public Review Period	08/11/09
Public Meeting on Draft EIR	08/19/09
End of 45-day Public Review Period	10/05/09
Submit FEIR to CSLC	10/26/09
CSLC Returns Comments	11/20/09
Camera-ready Draft EIR and MMP to CSLC	12/09/09
CSLC Returns Comments	12/31/09
Camera-ready FEIR to Printer	01/15/10
Publish FEIR	01/29/10
CSLC Meeting	February/March 2010

* Portions of the document and environmental reports will be reviewed as necessary before ADEIR is compiled.

V. Conflict of Interest Determinations

A conflict of interest may include any past, present, or currently planned circumstance, activity, or relationship that relates to the proposed work. Lead consultants should discuss the issue of conflict of interest with all members of their consultant team, including employees and subcontractors, before submitting a Proposal. Each proposed team member must sign conflict of interest statement that is included in the proposal. Proposals from consultants having a conflict of interest will not be considered in the selection process. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Preparation of the EIR will result in any consultant reviewing work that it has, or any of its proposed sub-contractors have, prepared for any affected facility; or
- Consultant has or any of its sub-contractors have participated in the collection or preparation of data for or in the development of the application submitted by the project applicant.

Determinations of potential conflict of interest are addressed by the CSLC on a case-by-case basis with each firm. Questions regarding this issue, or requests for a specific determination should be sent in writing or via e-mail to Annabell Abeleda, CSLC Contracts Officer, as noted in this Section.

VI. Minimum Requirements

- A. **Proposal Due Date** — The Proposal deadline for receipt, regardless of postmark is **November 3, 2008, no later than 4:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time**. Prospective contractors shall submit six (6) copies of their Proposals and one copy of the cost proposal to CSLC. Proposals shall be hand-delivered or sent via U.S. mail or overnight delivery service to the CSLC office listed below.

Annabell Abeleda, Contract Officer
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825

(916) 574-1871

abeleda@slc.ca.gov

Firms submitting have the burden of proof to confirm that their Proposal was actually received in accordance with this announcement should there be any dispute about meeting the filing deadline.

- B. Sealed Cost Proposal – Because of the aggressive time schedule for this Project, bidders are to submit one copy of detailed cost proposal in a separate sealed envelope along with their proposals. The envelope shall be clearly marked on the outside with the bidder's name, project title, bid log number, and the words "Sealed Cost Proposal" in 18-point size lettering. The cost proposal shall be submitted using the electronic template attached or enclosed with this SOI. The sealed cost proposals for bidders not selected pursuant to CSLC's contracting process will remain sealed and will either be disposed of in an un-opened condition, or returned to the bidder at their request.
- C. Small Business Participation and Certification – **This project has a participation goal of twenty five percent (25%) of the total contract price for qualifying small businesses (SB).** This twenty five percent (25%) goal may be achieved by a combined effort of the Contractor and sub-contractors. Any small business used to meet this requirement must be certified by or have certification pending with the Department of General Services, Office of Small Business Certification and Resources. If awarded the Contract, the Contractor will be required to submit evidence that it has either met these participation goals or made a good faith effort to meet the Small Business Participation goal. The State reserves the right to accept a participation level lower than 25% subject to firm evidence and acceptance of "good faith effort" documentation.
- The Contractor shall be deemed to have made "good faith efforts" upon submittal of documentary evidence that all of the following actions were taken:
1. Contact was made with CSLC to identify potential Small Business firms;
 2. Contact was made with other State agencies, including the Department of General Services, Office of Small Business Certification and Resources, to identify potential Small Business firms;
 3. Invitations to Bid were submitted to potential Small Business firms; and
 4. Available Small Business firms were considered.
- D. Disabled Veteran's Business Enterprise Participation and Certification – **This project has a mandatory participation goal of at least five percent (5%) of the total contract price for qualified Disabled Veteran's Business Enterprise (DVBE).** This five percent (5%) goal may be achieved by a combined effort of the Contractor and sub-contractors. Any business used to meet the DVBE requirement must be certified by or have certification pending with the Department of General Services, Office of Small Business Certification and Resources. Contractor will clearly identify within their proposal, those subcontractors that are certified DVBE's. The cost estimate will identify the amounts allocated to those subcontractors that are certified DVBE's in their cost proposal.
- E. Attend Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference – All Prime Contractors interested in submitting a Proposal are required to attend the meeting scheduled at **2:00 PM on October 1, 2008. Firms without a representative at the Pre-Proposal Conference will not be allowed to submit a Proposal.**

F. Submittal Format – Proposal Submittals will be evaluated only upon receipt of the following:

- Letter of Interest (cover letter)
- Proposal (**maximum 50 pages** excluding covers, dividers, Letter of Interest, and DVBE compliance forms or Small Business documentation), including:
- Firm's qualifications and experience, and resumes showing experience of the Firm's proposed Project Manager and senior team members to be employed for this Project.
- Subcontractors' qualifications and experience, and resumes showing experience of the subcontractors' proposed senior team members to be employed for this Project.
- Brief description of the experience of the firm, Project Manager, and all team members regarding projects similar to the proposed Project.
- An organization chart showing the names and areas of responsibility for all members of the proposed Project team. Must include identification of the technical editor and web content specialist.
- A concise work plan, which includes a description of the work tasks, methodology, milestones, and work products.
- A Quality Assurance Plan outlining methods and processes for assuring quality of all work products
- Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBE) compliance forms. **IMPORTANT:** Please see enclosure, "Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Participation Requirements". ***Compliance will require immediate action on the part of the Contractor before contract can be awarded.***
- Small Business participation documentation and certifications and/or "good faith effort" documentation.
- A proposed schedule for completing major work tasks, which highlights any differences from the proposed Schedule contained herein. Any proposed changes to the Schedule must be fully justified.

Proposals, of which (6) copies shall be submitted, should focus on providing information describing as to how the firm intends to complete the work described in Section III within the given schedule. The core of the Proposal should be a detailed work plan demonstrating the firm's understanding of the work to be done, its proposed methodology, and ability to perform that work within the Schedule required. **As previously stated, the cost proposal shall be in a separate sealed document from the Proposal.**

VII. Selection Criteria

This request is a supplement to the pre-qualification submittals (RFQ 2006-11) referenced in CSLC regulations and can be viewed at (http://www.slc.ca.gov/Regulations/Article_13.html). Its purpose is to provide additional information regarding the qualifications of interested firms and a specific Scope of Work for this specific Project. **Firms that have not previously submitted a Statement of Qualifications to the CSLC must do so before they can be considered for this Project.** Certification process may be concurrent SOI consideration; separate certification documentation required. Certification application package is available at

Ranking of a firm shall be made by CSLC staff on the basis of demonstrated competence and experience of the firm, on the qualifications and experience of the staff proposed for the Project, and the availability of resources appropriate to complete the work on time. **These criteria require that the Proposal demonstrate specialized experience of the firm (including subcontractors) and individuals (especially Project Manager) as follows:**

Absolute Requirements

1. No missing documents and all key items listed or discussed in the SOI have been supplied or addressed;
2. Compliance with required Proposal submittal date;
3. Bidder to be pre-qualified by having a Statement of Qualifications on file with the CSLC; and
4. Mandatory Attendance at Consultant's Pre-proposal Conference. **Please note that, given the aggressive processing schedule and technical nature of the proposed project, lead or principal consultants intending to submit a Proposal are required to attend the Pre-proposal Conference. No proposal will be accepted unless the prime consultant was in attendance. Potential subcontractors are welcome to attend for information gathering only, but may not act as a representative for the prime consultant.**

Differentiating Criteria

- A. Knowledge, recent experience, and demonstrated understanding, by proposed staff, of the CEQA processes, and relevant federal and State laws, including but not necessarily limited to, the federal and State Endangered Species Acts and the State and National Historic Preservation Acts;
- B. Knowledge, recent experience, and demonstrated understanding, by proposed staff, of the land use planning processes, and relevant State laws;
- C. Knowledge, recent experience, and demonstrated understanding by proposed staff of environmental resources, environmental analysis and issues in San Bernardino County, including cumulative analysis strategies, and applicable requirements of federal, State and local governments such as those listed in Section II of this SOI;
- D. Demonstrated understanding of the technical aspects of the project, quality of recommendations on how to proceed in the environmental evaluation of the proposed Project, understanding of the available data, identification of possible issues and a description of needed supplemental analyses;
- E. CSLC evaluation of the task-based Scope of Work (listing specific milestones and work products) that demonstrates a clear understanding of the various components of the Project, including identification of issues and a detailed description of the methodology and analysis to be used in addressing those issues;
- F. Demonstrated experience and ability of the proposed Project Manager to keep the Project on schedule and on budget, and to communicate project status, issues and concerns with other members of the consultant team, and the CSLC;

- G. Inclusion of a comprehensive Quality Assurance Plan outlining techniques and methodology that will be used to ensure quality of all work product submitted to the State; and
- H. Demonstrated experience of Firm, personnel, and Project Manager to prepare legally defensible environmental documents in accordance with the proposed Scope of Work and the Project Schedule.

VIII. Contract Administrative Process

Firms will be selected on the basis of responses to this request and an oral interview.

This is a competency-based selection process in accordance with Government Code Section 4526 and CLSC regulations. All proposals will be reviewed by a Selection Committee appointed by the Executive Officer.

Upon receipt and review of all Proposals, staff may contact firms by telephone to review Proposals, clarify areas where the staff has questions, and answer questions from the bidders. No fewer than three firms will be selected for in-person interviews. Interviews will be conducted in Sacramento. Upon conclusion of the interviews, the firms will be ranked. The sealed cost proposal of the designated number one ranked firm will be opened and reviewed. The CSLC will attempt to negotiate a fee for services, which includes the DVBE participation requirement a Consultant must meet. The CSLC reserves the right to review and specify a maximum administrative fee charged by consultant for subcontractors. In the event that a satisfactory agreement cannot be negotiated within 15 days, the CSLC may terminate negotiations with that firm and begin negotiations with the next ranked firm and so on. After successful negotiations, a contract will be awarded and executed.

The CSLC reserves the right to terminate the selection proceedings at any time prior to the award of contract.

For more information, or to submit questions regarding the content of this request for Statements of Interest, please contact Annabell Abeleda, Contracts Officer, at 916-574-1871 or by e-mail at abeleda@slc.ca.gov.

Following attachments can be found at:

| http://www.slc.ca.gov/Misc_Pages/Contracting_Opportunities_Home_Page.html

- Project Location Map
- CSLC Environmental Justice Policy
- Cost Proposal Spreadsheet (to be completed and placed in a separate sealed envelope)
- CSLC Model Invoice Summary and Status Report
- DVBE Participation Requirements

To Be Distributed after the contract is awarded:

- CSLC EIR Style Guide, including Guidelines for the Preparation of documents for Posting to CSLC Web Sites